

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please cancel the original Title on page 1, lines 1-2 in its entirety and insert therefore:

WATER-ABSORBING POLYMERS WITH SUPRAMOLECULAR HOLLOW MOLECULES, METHOD FOR PRODUCING THEM AND USE OF THE SAME

Please insert the following text as a separate paragraph beginning on page 1, line 1:

This application is a Continuation Application of U.S. Serial No. 09/701,564, now allowed, which is the national stage of International Application PCT/EP99/03705.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, lines 13-20, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B) 50 g of the dried and milled polymer from A) screen to 150-800 ~~mm~~ μ m is wetted with a solution of 0.5 g of ethylene carbonate, 2 g of water and 4 g of acetone in a plastic vessel with vigorous stirring and mixed thoroughly using a commercially available household hand mixer (Krups company).

Subsequently, the wetted polymer is heated in an oven at a temperature of 180°C for 30 minutes, thereby undergoing surface crosslinking.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, lines 12-19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

50 g of the willowed, dried and milled polymer from Example 1A) screened to 150-800 ~~mm~~ μ m is wetted with a solution of 0.5 g of ethylene carbonate, 1.5 g of non-modified cyclodextrin, and 8.5 g of water in a plastic vessel with vigorous stirring and mixed thoroughly using a commercially available household hand mixer (Krups company). For

surface crosslinking, the wetted polymer subsequently is heated in an oven at a temperature of 175°C for 25 minutes.